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# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## FARMERS' BULLETIN

566

Contributions from the Bureau of Animal Industry, A. D. Melvin, Chief, and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Wm. A. Taylor, Chief. December 31, 1913.

### BOYS' PIG CLUBS,

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THEIR ORGANIZATION IN THE SOUTH.

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#### INTRODUCTION.

The southern people are great consumers of pork in its many forms, but are comparatively small producers of this commodity. There are millions of dollars spent every year for pork to use on the farms of the South, while producing a cotton crop. Nor is anything like all of this meat bought for the negro laborers on these

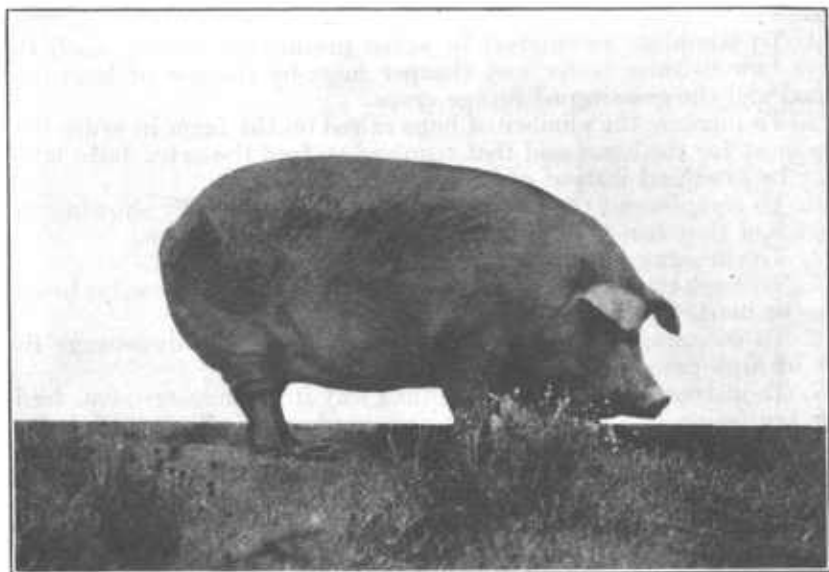


FIG. 1.—The sweepstakes champion at the Louisiana State fair in 1912, raised by a member of the boys' pig club. Weight 500 pounds at 12 months of age. This is the type of hog all boys should try to raise.

plantations, for the number of farms that raise and cure all of the meat to be consumed is indeed very few. The experiment stations have shown beyond a doubt that hogs can be raised and fattened cheaper throughout this section than in any other portion of the United States. The hogs are subject to no more diseases nor drawbacks of any other character than are hogs in the corn belt; the climate is such that high-priced hog houses are not required for the

brood sows or growing pigs during the winter time; and the variety of crops which may be raised for the hogs can not be surpassed.

Everything is in favor of the hog raiser in the South except markets, but this work is not primarily to encourage a few people to raise large numbers of hogs for the market, but to encourage many to raise at least enough pork for home consumption. If the time should come when hogs are raised in such numbers that there are more than enough to fill the home demand, there will no doubt be buyers, markets, and packing houses to take care of the surplus.

The present prices of beef are such as to make it an almost prohibited article for food with some people. Conditions are such that the present shortage of beef can not be overcome in a short time, and the other forms of meat will be used to partly make up this decreased consumption of beef. Of all the substitutes for beef, there will probably be none more popular than pork, and such a condition is perfectly proper, for the supply can be increased far more rapidly than can that of either beef or mutton. As the hog can be marketed in many forms—as fresh pork, hams, bacon, sausage, etc.—it bids fair to become even more popular and can be produced at the present time so as to sell much cheaper than beef.

#### OBJECTS OF THE WORK.

The object of forming pig clubs among the boys may be briefly stated as follows:

1. To stimulate an interest in swine production and to teach the boys how to raise better and cheaper hogs by the use of improved blood and the growing of forage crops.

2. To increase the number of hogs raised on the farm in order that the meat for the home and that required to feed the extra farm labor may be produced instead of being bought.

3. To complement the work of the boys' corn clubs by showing the boys how they can profitably sell their corn through hogs.

4. To encourage the home curing of meats on the farm.

5. To teach the boys how to judge hogs and to select them for breedings or market purposes.

6. To encourage the growing of forage crops and discourage the use of high-priced feeds.

7. To instruct the boys in a practical way in the management, feeding, sanitation, and prevention of diseases of swine, all of which information proves valuable with respect to other forms of live-stock work.

8. To give the boys a means of earning some money for themselves while at home.

9. To instill in the boys while young a love of animals which will result in their taking more interest in farm life, and to furnish them at the same time some work which will in a practical way give an insight into the business side of farm life and incite in them a desire to struggle for and attain success.

#### THE ORGANIZATION OF BOYS' PIG CLUBS.

The work of organizing the boys' pig clubs herein described is to be conducted by the Bureau of Animal Industry in cooperation with the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Wherever the demonstration work is organized in cooperation with the State college of agriculture the State pig club

agent will be stationed at that point, and will cooperate with the agricultural college in conjunction with the demonstration work. When possible the Bureau of Animal Industry will place in each southern State desiring to carry on this work a State agent, who will assist in organizing the pig clubs, give full instructions and advice concerning the work, and will direct the pig-club work within that State. Naturally one man will not be able to organize personally all the pig clubs of the State. It will therefore devolve upon the agents of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work to supply, in the main, the active work of organization.

The State pig-club agent will be a specialist in swine husbandry, and will be instructed to keep in close touch with the swine industry of the Nation and of the State in which he is located; he will do his utmost to keep the local demonstration agents informed on such matters, and will assist them in every way possible in the organization of the pig clubs. The boys' pig clubs are logical supplements to the boys' corn clubs, and the membership of the two will include the same boys to a large extent. Naturally, therefore, the boys' pig clubs now being organized will be units of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work as much as are the boys' corn clubs. It therefore follows that a demonstration agent can greatly increase his usefulness to the community in which he is stationed by fostering the organization of the pig clubs as much as possible. Hearty cooperation between the agents of the two bureaus engaged is therefore essential to the success of the undertaking.

#### COUNTY UNITS.

The county is the proper unit for the organization of clubs. Each county may be subdivided into districts where interest enough is taken to secure a membership of over 10 in a club. These districts should be small enough to be in reach of all the boys in the county.

When it is desired to organize pig clubs in a county, the State agent of the boys' pig-club work will, if possible, attend meetings called to organize such clubs and explain to prospective members and other interested persons the nature of the work. Those in charge of the meeting should secure the names of all the boys in the county who are interested and send these names to the State agent of the pig-club work.

Meetings of the county pig clubs should be held at the courthouse or other central point, and the State agent will attend as many such meetings as possible. These meetings should be held as early in the season as possible, so that the members would have time to secure their pig or pigs and prepare some crops for them. The State agent of the pig-club work and the local demonstration agent can often be of aid to those who wish to buy purebred pigs.

The county agent of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work will be glad to organize such clubs and have them conducted under the direction of the State agent of the pig-club work. He will also be glad at all times to give specific directions about the proper rotation of crops for continuous hog feeding and the raising of these crops, as well as giving other valuable assistance in furthering the work of the club.

At various times during the season it would be well to hold meetings at some central point, or at the home of some member of the club,

where points of interest concerning the club work and breeding or feeding topics may be discussed and questions answered. The county demonstration agent should be notified of these meetings, so that he may attend if possible.

#### RULES FOR THE CLUB.

Each club should elect three officers—a president or manager, a vice president, and a secretary-treasurer. A simple constitution and by-laws should be adopted, and these may be patterned after the sample given in the appendix at the end of this circular. The president of the county club should be the county superintendent of education, or some earnest teacher or other influential citizen who will take active interest in the work, especially in forming district clubs, soliciting prizes, etc., for the winners at the county exhibit, and encouraging and aiding the boys in any other way possible.



FIG. 2.—The large hog on the right was raised by a pig-club boy and is 6 months old. The small hog was raised by the father and is 2 years old. Who is the better hog raiser?

The president of the district club should be some person who will encourage and push the work, such as the teacher of agriculture in the local school. He should see that the members follow the rules of the club and he should collect their reports and forward them promptly to the president of the county club, who will send them to the State agent.

The duty of the vice president should be to perform the duties of the president in his absence.

The secretary-treasurer should keep a record of the meetings of the club, and render a report of the same at the annual meeting. He should act as correspondent of the club in such matters as pertain to the business of it and do all in his power to promote the interests of the club.

The following rules should be adopted by each club:

1. Any boy between the ages of 10 and 18 years may become a member.
2. Each boy must secure at least one pig if he becomes a member of the club.
3. Each member must care for his stock in person, and keep a record of the feed given and the pasture grazed. He must record the weight of each pig when it came into his possession and at stated intervals, so as to determine the gains. The date of farrowing should also be recorded.
4. Record blanks, which will be furnished, should be filled out and certified by two disinterested persons.
5. Each member must have owned and kept a record of his pig for at least four months in order to compete for a prize.
6. The members of the club must agree to study the instructions of the United States Department of Agriculture.
7. Each member must, whenever possible, show at least one pig at the county exhibit, and the winners of the county exhibit must show their pigs at the State fair.

#### PRIZES AND AWARDS.

It will be found best to distribute the prizes into several classes, in order that a number of contestants may have a chance to win a prize. Honor and recognition sometimes count for more than money. Badges, certificates, and diplomas given to the club members are often appreciated as much, if not more, than money and other expensive premiums. When liberal amounts are given for prizes in a county it will be well to give prizes to the winners of the district clubs and offer premiums to the club that will make the highest records with five to a team, dividing this premium into several awards, depending upon the rank.

The prizes given should be appropriate and such as would add interest to the work. They may be a trip to the State fair, a visit to Washington, a trip to the feeders' and breeders' show at Fort Worth or to the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, scholarships in agricultural schools, the expenses necessary to take a short course at the State agricultural college, purebred pigs, purebred chickens, farm tools, or books on live stock, etc., as well as cash prizes.

The following is a list of some of the exhibits for which prizes may be offered:

Class 1. Prizes for the members making the best exhibit, the results to rest upon the following basis:

	Per cent.
(a) The best hog with respect to the purpose which it is to serve-----	40
(b) The greatest daily gains on the hog-----	15
(c) Cheapest cost of production-----	25
(d) Best-kept records of the feeding and care of the pig-----	20

Sow and pigs may be considered.

Class 2. Best pig for slaughter purposes, either grade or purebred. Boars not eligible to compete in this class.

Class 3. Best boar for breeding purposes—purebred only.

Class 4. Best brood sow for producing hogs desirable for market purposes, taking into consideration her conformation and the number and vitality of the pigs farrowed. Either purebred or grade eligible.

A sow which has given proof of her excellence as a breeder should be given preference over untried ones of the same quality.

Any other classes desired may be added to the above list by the State agent or this list may be otherwise modified to meet local conditions.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

#### PUREBREDS AND GRADES.

There will be some boys who will desire to purchase a purebred pig, and anyone who does so should write to the State agent of the pig clubs, telling his wants. The agent can often help a boy in securing a good registered pig at a moderate price.

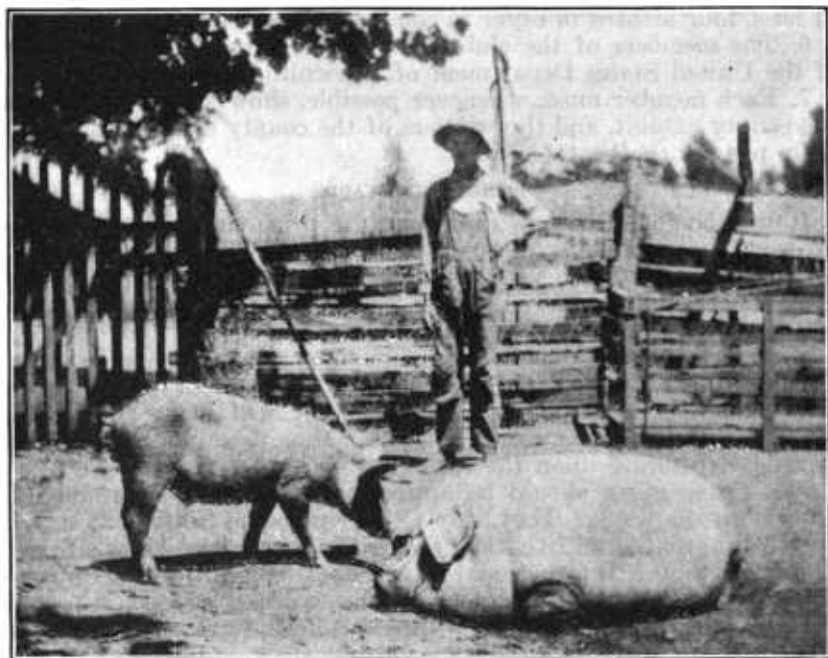


FIG. 3.—These hogs are litter mates. The large one belongs to the boy, while the small one was raised by his father. They are 9 months old, and the boy's pig weighs 385 pounds.

Unless a boy is prepared to take good care of a registered sow pig and can sell the progeny for breeding stock, it is questionable if he will make as much profit as if he had put the same amount of money into grade sow pigs, which could be bred later to a purebred boar. The use of grade gilts is to be recommended where they can be bought cheaply and the progeny are to be used for slaughter purposes. When bred to a purebred boar they usually produce pigs that are practically as desirable for meat as purebred hogs. The best sow pigs from the litter should be retained for breeding purposes, to be bred later to another purebred boar. The rest can be raised for fattening purposes and either killed or sold at the end of the year. By this method the hogs raised will improve in quality from year to year, and within two years the boy may own several hogs.

## THE BOAR.

The use of purebred boars is recommended when these can be secured. In a community where there is no good registered boar it will be advisable for one member of the club to secure one, to which the other members may breed their sows. A cash fee or a pig from the resulting litter may be selected at weaning time for the service. In this way the boar will recompense his owner. The members of the club should patronize such a hog in preference to using a grade sire. In such a case it is essential that all members of the club use sows of one breed, or natives, in order that the one boar may be used for breeding all of the sows. The boys of each club should be encouraged to select one breed of hogs, in order that they may be taught some of the benefits of cooperation by the use of the male and by the sale of animals uniform in type and color.

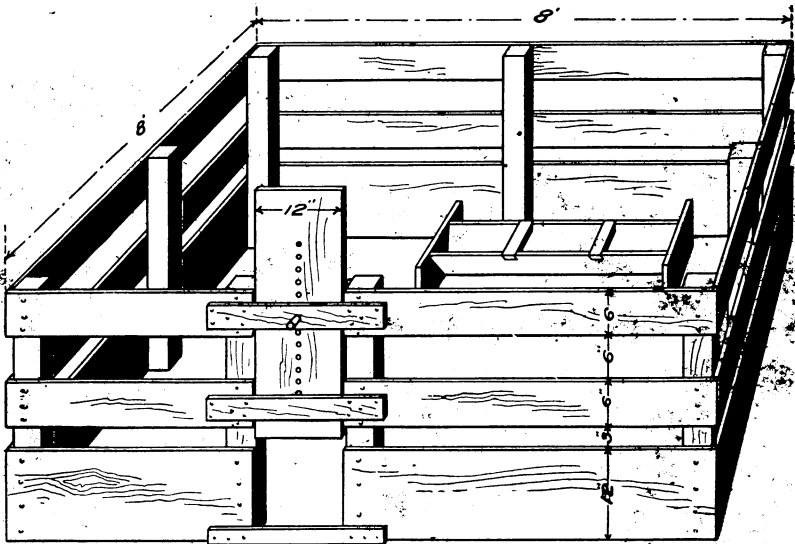


FIG. 4.—Feeding pen for small pigs.

Some club might find it profitable to buy a boar for the use of club members, letting each member buy stock in him. Money could probably be borrowed by each boy from his father for this purpose with the understanding that it would be paid back the next year.

The boar should be kept at some centrally located farm where he would be best available for use. He should be kept by some boy who would give him good care and attention. Arrangements concerning his location, care, etc., would be determined by members of the club. When his period of usefulness is over to the club, he may be traded for a new boar or sold and the money used for purchasing another one. If possible, some arrangement should be made whereby a new boar could be bought and kept until he is large enough to use for breeding purposes before the older one is disposed of. If the boar receives good treatment, he might be used for one year and then sold for more than he cost.



## FORAGE CROPS.

The buying of high-priced commercial feeds on which to grow or fatten the hogs is not desirable, but the boys should be encouraged in every way possible to plant some hog crops which may be grazed off. Information concerning the growing and grazing of these crops can be secured from Farmers' Bulletin 411.

The money derived from the sale of the fattened hogs can often be profitably used for preparing hog crops the following year or for inclosing a permanent pasture for the hogs. Parents should always encourage the boys by paying them a fair price for their fat hogs when they are used for home consumption.

## PASTURING A CLUB PIG WITH OTHERS.

If it is desired to keep the pig in the same pasture with other hogs, the acreage of the pasture and the number and approximate weights of all the hogs on the pasture should be recorded at the beginning and

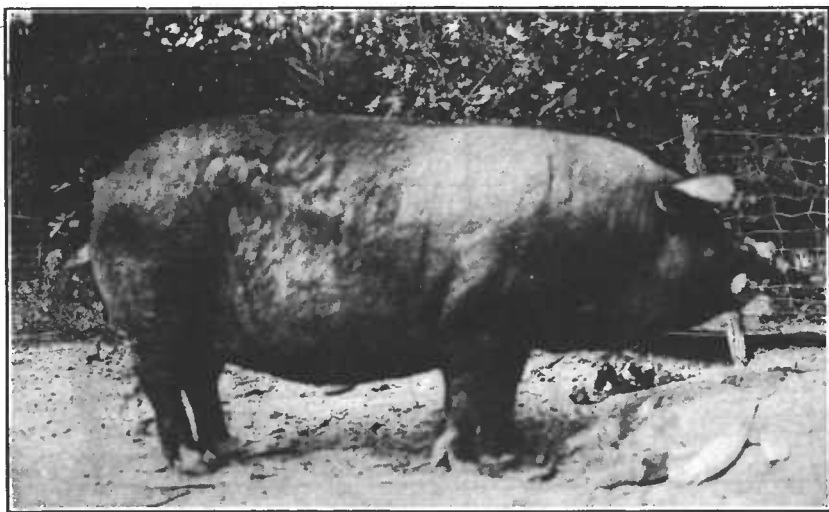


FIG. 5.—Hog raised by a pig-club boy in Alabama.

the end of the pasture season. The amount of pasture used by the boy's pig can then be estimated. If this method is followed the boy should make a small pen in a convenient place in the pasture, so that he can feed his hog separate from the rest. In figure 4 is shown such a pen. If it can be built under a tree to furnish shade, so much the better. It need not be over 8 feet square and should have a sliding door, which may be raised to let the pig enter and immediately dropped to keep out other hogs. The pig can be let out again as soon as he has consumed his feed. If the other hogs in the pasture are to receive feed, too, the boy's pig should be fed in his pen first in order that he will not get feed which would not be charged against him. If a number of holes are bored in the door, it can be held with a peg at any height to let pigs enter in case the boy wants to use the same pen in feeding small pigs separate from

their mother. In this case the pigs can be given feed in the pen first, the door dropped, and the sow fed on the outside, or she may be fed in the pen after the pigs have eaten.

#### PASTURING WITHOUT FENCES.

It is not necessary that the land on which a boy plants his hog crops be fenced off to itself if he has but one or two pigs, for he can easily construct a pen from hurdles made of light 1 by 3 inch material or woven wire, which can be easily moved to permit the hog to graze the crop. A light cover can be made to fit upon one corner of the pen to furnish shade for the pig during the day. Full information concerning these things can be secured from the State agent of the pig-club work.

#### DISEASES.

##### SCOURS.

If the pigs show indications of scouring, keep the charcoal mixture mentioned later where the sow can eat it at will, or give her 15 grains of copperas in her slop every night and morning until effective. In cases of severe scouring with little pigs each may be given 5 to 10 grains of subnitrate of bismuth after changing the sow's feed and giving her the copperas.

If hogs get plenty of exercise and are fed slop or soft feeds, they will seldom become constipated. In case a pregnant sow becomes very constipated give her one-fourth of a pound of Epsom salt in her slop once daily until her bowels become normal.

##### WORMS.

The cause of the greatest loss of hogs in the South is worms. One of the best preventive measures is to keep a mixture of charcoal, ashes, lime, salt, sulphur, and copperas where the hogs can eat it at will. It may be made up in the following proportions:

#### *Charcoal mixture.*

Charcoal.....	bushel...	1	Air-slaked lime.....	pounds...	8
Hardwood ashes.....	do.....	1	Sulphur .....	do.....	4
Salt.....	pounds...	8	Pulverized copperas.....	do.....	2

Mix the lime, salt, and sulphur thoroughly and then mix with the charcoal and ashes. Dissolve the copperas in 2 parts of hot water and sprinkle over the whole mass, mixing it thoroughly. Store this in a barrel under shelter, but keep some of it in a shallow box for the hogs at all times.

If hogs are already wormy, turpentine can be given in the slop each morning for three mornings, at the rate of one teaspoonful for each 80 pounds of live weight. Also give the hogs the charcoal mixture.

##### LICE.

Examine the hogs frequently about the ears, neck, flank, and the inside of the legs to see if they are lousy. Lice cause unthriftiness among hogs of any age and death among many pigs. To get rid of them, wash or dip the hogs in a solution of any of the coal-tar disin-

fectants, which may be purchased at a drug store. Directions for the dilution of the material are always given with it.

A rubbing post may be made by wrapping some gunny sacks about a stake and wetting the sacks frequently with crude oil, so that the hogs may rub against them. A very effective method of cleaning the hogs of lice during the summer months is to pour some crude oil on the water in the wallow. A thin layer of oil will get on the hogs and will kill the lice without injuring the hogs.

#### HOG CHOLERA.

Instructions for the prevention of hog cholera are given in Farmers' Bulletin 379, while sanitation and management of hogs are discussed in Farmers' Bulletin 205. These bulletins will be furnished by the State agent, and they should be carefully read by each boy.

#### CANKER SORE MOUTH.

Each year the loss of little pigs from this disease is enormous, and might be prevented by a little care. The disease is caused by infection through scratches on the nose or face of the pigs by a germ (*Bacillus necrophorus*) which is found in the droppings and filth from nearly all hogs. The infection results in swellings on the nose, or in eating canker sores. The small pigs have very sharp little tusks in the sides of their mouths, which scratch or cut the others' cheeks when they fight. The disease may be largely prevented by clipping these small tusks off even with the gums the day after the pigs are born, and by keeping the pens cleaned and bedded with fresh, clean straw. Care must be taken not to lacerate the gums when clipping the teeth and not to pull out the tusks, as infection would probably take place through these wounds more readily than from the scratches made by fighting.

A pair of small bone forceps for clipping the tusks may be bought for 75 cents to \$1, and should be kept on every farm where pigs are raised. They should be carefully disinfected, washed, and dried after use.

In case infection has already taken place and ulcers developed, the disease may be treated by scraping each ulcer thoroughly and rubbing it with a pencil of lunar caustic. Afterwards swab the sores twice daily with a 5 per cent solution of potassium permanganate. In mild cases good results have often been secured by dipping the head of the affected pig several times each day in a solution made by dissolving 2 ounces of potassium permanganate in a gallon of water. If lumps or boils develop on the snout, cut deeply into each with a sharp knife and at once saturate with tincture of iodine. Wash the snout daily thereafter with a solution of potassium permanganate and every other day apply tincture of iodine to the ulcers.<sup>1</sup>

#### MANAGEMENT OF SOW AND PIGS.

All hog lots should be built where the sun will shine in some portion of them at all hours of the day. Sunshine is one of the greatest factors for destroying germs and keeping down diseases. A supply of clean, fresh water at all times is essential. The troughs should be

<sup>1</sup> See Bulletin 184 of the Wisconsin Experiment Station.

kept clean and not so much feed given at one time that it will be left in the trough to become sour and filthy. The troughs should be frequently washed out and placed where the sun will shine in them. This is especially true of troughs used for feeding small pigs. Cleanliness of the feed is essential in this case to prevent scours, which is the cause of death among so many pigs. Avoid sudden changes of feed for the sow just before farrowing or while suckling her pigs. Do not give a sow too much feed at this time. She should have about 4 pounds of dry feed for each 100 pounds of live weight.

Some clean, dry straw should be placed in every house for bedding, as it is essential that the sow have a warm, dry bed when she farrows. Many young pigs are lost each year from cold and exposure at farrowing time on every farm where no shelter is provided. The young pigs must be kept warm, dry, and have plenty of sunshine until several weeks old in order to do well. Few sows that get plenty of exer-

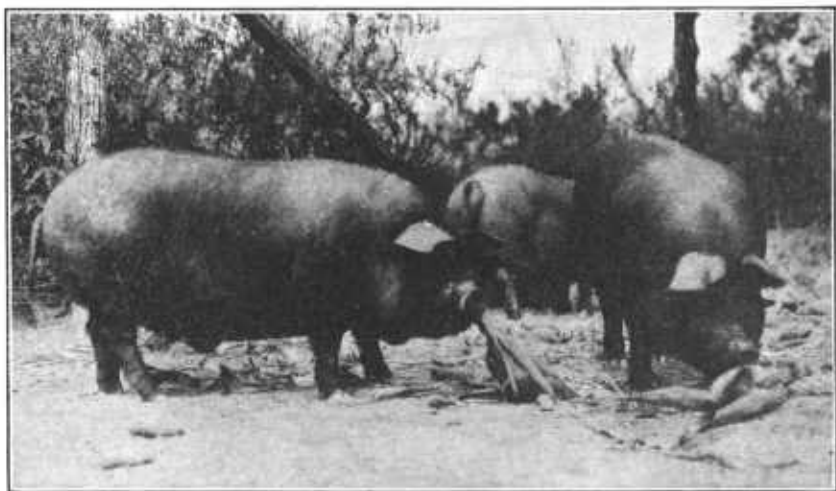


FIG. 6.—Hogs raised by a pig-club boy in Alabama.

cise and are not too fat will need help in farrowing, but it is well to be present to give aid if necessary and to keep any pigs from being crushed. Clip off the small tusks the day after the pigs are born. Give them the best of care for the first 10 days and the death rate will be reduced greatly.

A flat-bottomed trough with sides not over 3 inches high may be used for feeding the small pigs and the feeding should be started as soon as they will begin to eat, or at about 4 weeks old.

#### A PORTABLE HOG HOUSE.

In figure 7 is shown a hog house which can be built very easily and cheaply. It is a portable "A" house, built of 1 by 12 inch plank with the cracks covered with batten. It is open in front and should be placed facing the south. The floor is 8 feet wide and 6 feet from front to back, and is nailed to three runners or skids. The skids may be made of lumber or poles about 6 inches in diameter and flattened

on one side, to which the floor is nailed. A large hole can be bored through the front end of the outer skids so that a chain can be fastened to them to facilitate moving the house by the use of a team. A piece of 2 by 4 inch material is nailed on the outer edges of the top of floor to prevent the house from spreading at the bottom.

Each side of the house is made of 6 pieces of 1 by 12 inch plank 8 feet long, nailed to a piece of 2 by 4 lying flat about 9 inches from the top of the plank, another about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the top, and a piece of 2 by 8 nailed edgewise about 11 inches from the bottom. This should be braced at each end of the underside by a right-angle block of 2 by 8 inch material nailed to the rail and to the side of the house. The long piece of 2 by 8 will act as a guard under which the young pigs may take shelter when the sow lies down. This will save many pigs from being crushed to death.

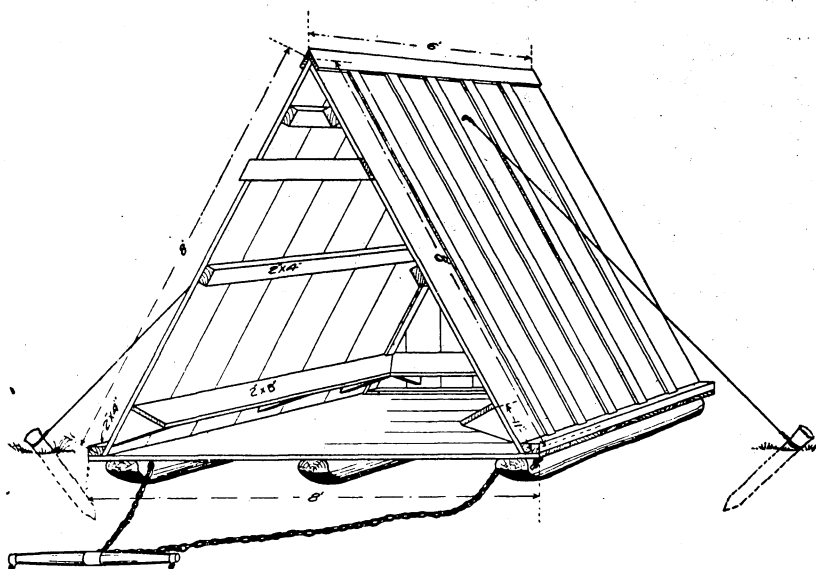


FIG. 7.—A portable A-shaped hog house, with chain and singletree for hauling.

The back of the house fits between the two sides in a groove made by nailing two pieces of 1 by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch material lengthwise on the inner side of each side of the house. The house is then "set up" on the floor and the sides held together by nailing a short piece of 1 by 6 inch plank across the front and back of the house about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet below the top. This will prevent it from being blown down by the wind or a storm. A saddle board made by nailing two pieces of 1 by 6 inch plank together can then be put over the ridge of the house to keep out rain.

A house built thus can be moved on the skids or can be taken down by removing the 1 by 6 inch brace from the front and the back of the house. If the house is located in an open field where there is danger of heavy winds, a guy wire should be securely fastened in each side of the house near the top and fastened to a stake driven deep into the ground. This is a precaution which will justify the trouble required,

as it may save a litter of pigs from being crushed in case of a storm. Such a house can be constructed without the "take-down" feature, and by securely nailing it will not need the guy wire. Some dirt may be thrown up at the front of the house to the level of the floor so that young pigs may enter without trouble.

The material necessary to build this house is as follows:

- 13 pieces 1 by 12 inch by 16 feet for sides, back, and floor of house.
- 9 pieces 16-foot batten.
- 3 pieces 2 by 4 inch by 12 feet for framework.
- 2 pieces 2 by 8 inch by 12 feet for pig rail or guard.
- 1 piece 1 by 6 inch by 16 feet for saddle board.
- 3 poles for skids.
- Nails.

Total, 272 board feet of lumber, 144 linear feet of batten, 3 poles, and the nails. As rough lumber suitable for the construction of such a house can usually be secured for about \$12 per 1,000 in the South, the material will cost about \$5.



FIG. 8.—Hog raised by a pig-club boy in Alabama.

This type of house is suitable for practically all parts of the South, as no extremely cold weather is experienced and the open front permits sunshine to enter the house for several hours each day.

#### HOG SHELTERS.

In case a boy can not obtain material to build such a house as has just been described, he should get whatever material is available on the farm and build a shelter for his hogs. It can be made out of waste planks, for any shelter that will protect the hogs from cold winds and rain and give them a dry bed, at the same time permitting the sun to shine in during a portion of the day, will be quite an improvement over conditions existing on so many farms at present.

A shelter to be used during the summer months may be made by setting four poles or posts into the ground and securely nailing 2 by 6 inch material around these about 3 feet from the ground; upon

these a few light poles may be put crosswise and straw or coarse hay piled on top. The straw should be piled higher in the middle than at the edges and smoothed down so the rain will run off. This will furnish shade during the greater part of the day. No shelter should be built where water can run under it from the surrounding ground.

### SUMMARY.

Each boy should bear in mind the following points:

1. The feeding and care are as important as the breeding in producing a good hog. Plenty of feed and good care may make a good hog out of a runt, but lack of it will always make a runt out of a good pig.

2. To make pork cheaply a permanent pasture and forage crops must be used.

3. Young pigs must have a dry bed and plenty of sunshine.

4. Begin feeding the pig as soon as he will eat, and keep him growing until he is mature.

5. Always keep plenty of clean, fresh water where the hogs may drink at any time.

6. Quarantine all newly purchased animals for three weeks.

7. Never keep a female for a brood sow, no matter how well bred she may be, if she will not produce more than four strong pigs at a litter.

8. The more milk a sow will give the faster her pigs will grow.

9. Lice prevent a hog from doing well.

10. Always keep a mixture of charcoal, wood ashes, lime, sulphur, salt, and copperas before the hogs.

Every boy who becomes a member of a boys' pig club is urged to do all within his power to learn, and, if possible, to become a winner in his club. To win a prize is not so great in itself, but to learn and to do the work required to win a premium will be of inestimable value to him later. Each boy will be more skillful and competent because of a year's experience as a club member.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR PREVENTING HOG CHOLERA.

The following suggestions for preventing hog cholera are given by Dr. A. D. Melvin, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry:

Do not have hog lots next to highways, railroads, or streams. If your neighbor's hogs have cholera do not allow anyone from his farm to visit your farm, and especially your hog lot or pens, and keep away from your neighbor's hog lot, whether his hogs have cholera or not.

Do not keep pigeons or allow them to alight on your premises.

Keep away crows and buzzards.

Quarantine all new hogs brought to your place until you are sure they are free of disease.

Do not allow a patent-medicine man on your place, for you do not know how recently he has visited a sick herd.

Disinfect your wagon and your own shoes and clothes after hauling hogs to stock yards or railroad loading pens.

Avoid every possible way of carrying infection to your hogs.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is an old saying, but in this case it is everything.

## APPENDIX.

## SAMPLE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1.—*Name.*

The name of this association shall be the ——— County Boys' Pig Club Association.

ARTICLE 2.—*Object.*

The object of this association shall be to promote interest in the breeding and improvement of high-grade and purebred swine; to instruct its members in the prevention and eradication of the diseases peculiar to swine; and to instill in the boys a love for farm animals which will result in their taking more interest in farm life.

ARTICLE 3.—*Membership.*

Any boy or girl between the ages of 10 and 18 years who will agree to secure at least one pig and care for it under the instructions furnished by the State agent in pig-club work may at any time become a member.

ARTICLE 4.—*Organization.*

The officers shall be a president, a vice president, and a secretary-treasurer.

ARTICLE 5.—*Meetings.*

There shall be a regular annual meeting of the association and such special meetings at times and places as may be determined by the president.

ARTICLE 6.—*Elections.*

The election of officers shall be held at the regular annual meeting, and such election shall be by ballot.

ARTICLE 7.—*Amendments.*

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the annual meeting.

## BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1.—*Duties and privileges.*

It shall be the duty of each member to cooperate as far as possible with his fellow members in the use of purebred boars; also to solicit new members and to encourage them in better methods of caring for their animals. Each member shall be entitled to one vote in the business meetings of the association.

SECTION 2.—*Officers.*

The officers shall be elected to serve one year and perform such services as are ordinarily required by their position. They shall serve until the election of their successors.

SECTION 3.—*President.*

The president shall preside at all meetings of the association. He shall also collect all reports from the club members and send them to the State agent.

SECTION 4.—*Vice president.*

The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in his absence.



SECTION 5.—*Secretary-Treasurer.*

The secretary-treasurer shall keep a record of all proceedings of the association, and shall render a report of the same at the annual meeting; shall act as correspondent in matters pertaining to the business of the association, and shall keep a correct enrollment of all members.

SECTION 6.—*Order of business.*

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Report of the secretary-treasurer.

Reports of committees.

Unfinished business.

New business.

Election of officers.

(Correspondence should be addressed to W. F. Ward, in charge of beef-cattle investigations and pig clubs, Bureau of Animal Industry, or to Bradford Knapp, in charge of farmers' cooperative demonstration work, Bureau of Plant Industry, according to the information desired.)

